

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

Democratic Services Committee
15 January, 2018

REPORT BY: Head of Democratic Services
SUBJECT: Matters relating to Democratic Services issues

REPORT FOR: Decision, Information and Discussion

1. Area (Shire) Committees

At the last meeting of the Committee on 27th November, 2017 a request from a Member was approved that a report be prepared for the Committee and Full Council to consider in January 2018 to review the future of the Area (Shire) Committees. A copy of the report is attached.

RECOMMENDATION	Reason for Recommendation:
That the Committee indicates its view and recommendations to Full Council in relation to the options included in paragraph 13 of the report.	To undertake a review in respect of Area (Shire) Committees.

2. Timing of meetings

In accordance with the statutory guidance issued by the Welsh Government under Section 6(1) of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011, the Council is required to survey Members in respect of the times at which meetings of a local authority are held. All local authorities should review the times at which meetings are held at least once in every term, preferably shortly after the new Council is elected. The results will be reported to the Committee for consideration. A copy of the Draft survey is attached.

RECOMMENDATION	Reason for Recommendation:
That the draft survey be approved for circulation to Members.	To undertake the survey of Members as required by statutory guidance under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011.

3. Constitution

Following the last meeting a number of Sections of the Constitution have been further revised to take account of the comments of Members. These are attached to this report.

Although the documents contain all the changes to date, the table below indicates only those rules which need consideration at this meeting as the remainder were agreed at the last meeting.

Section	Name	Revised Rules for consideration:
3	Getting Information and Getting Involved	3.9A 3.9B
4	Full Council	4.6.6
6	The Leader	6.7 6.14 6.17
7	Scrutiny Committees	7.14
9	Regulatory Committees	9.2.4 9.2.8 9.3.6 9.3.7
18	Code of Conduct for Members	18.4.8.1 18.4.10.7 (5)
19	Planning Protocol	19.4 19.5

RECOMMENDATION	Reason for Recommendation:
That the Committee approves the additional changes for recommendation to the Full Council on 25 th January, 2018.	To review the Constitution on an ongoing basis.

4. Request for Additional Council Meetings

A request has been received from County Councillor Graham Breeze, that the number of Council meetings annually should be increased to 10 meetings.

RECOMMENDATION	Reason for Recommendation:
That the Committee considers its view for recommendation to the Full Council on 25 th January, 2018.	To review the number of Council meetings annually.

5. Mandatory Training

Following the review of Children's Services by CSSIW an Improvement Board has been established to monitor the Council's improvement programme. The Council is also to be the subject of a review of Adults Services at the end of January 2018. Therefore the Council is the subject of scrutiny by the Improvement Board, Welsh Government Ministers and our regulators.

A major part of the Council's improvement relates to the Leadership and Governance of the Council, and this work involves and affects all Members of Council, as political leaders, corporate parents, scrutineers and decision makers.

As a result a programme of Member Development has been designed to be delivered from January to March 2018 (copy attached). It is imperative that Members both attend and engage in these sessions to demonstrate that the

Council is serious about improvement. Therefore the Committee is asked whether these development sessions should be mandatory for Members.

RECOMMENDATION	Reason for Recommendation:
That the Committee recommends to Full Council that the development programme in relation to the Council's improvement be made mandatory for Members.	To demonstrate the Council's intent in relation to its improvement.

Contact Officer Name:	Tel:	Email:
Wyn Richards, Head of Democratic Services	01597 826375	Wyn.richards@powys.gov.uk